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# FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION      UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

March 15, 1946

No. 154

AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS. . . . March 7, the House agreed to a resolution waiving points of order and began debate on the agricultural appropriation bill; the House passed the Patman housing bill. The House Rules Committee reported resolutions for the consideration of bills to slow up liquidation of rural rehabilitation projects and to transfer fur-bearing animal research to the Department of Agriculture. March 8, the House Food Shortages Committee submitted a report on the dairy situation. Senator Thomas (Okla.), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, introduced a bill to provide for the utilization of surplus farm commodities. March 11, the House passed with amendments the agricultural appropriation bill. March 12, the Senate passed the administrative procedure bill; the Senate received the President's recommendation on wool prices and marketing. March 13, the House agreed to the conference report on the urgent deficiency appropriation bill - 1946 (this bill contains a hundred million dollar loan authorization for REA); the House passed the second appropriation recisions bill which includes a 5 million dollar recision in the appropriation for emergency supplies for territories and possessions; Representative Flannagan, Chairman of the House Agricultural Committee, introduced a bill to provide for two additional Assistant Secretaries of Agriculture.

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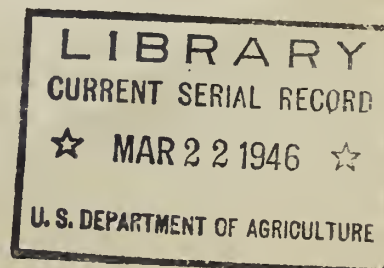
FOOD SUBSIDIES: . . . Secretary Anderson last week asked the House Banking and Currency Committee for a renewal of price control legislation and money for continuance of subsidies past June 30, 1946, stating that world food conditions make it impossible to predict a safe date for the termination of subsidies. He said that it would be impossible to remove subsidies without violating the provision of the Executive Order which places upon the Price Administrator and the Secretary of Agriculture the responsibility of seeing that the general level of prices does not rise.

Secretary Anderson reviewed his own and the Department's attitude on subsidies--that they should be removed at the earliest possible moment. He asked that subsidies and price control be continued with the "understanding that just as we have dropped a few of the subsidies already we will continue to drop additional subsidies as rapidly as conditions will permit. . . during periods of strong demand and thereby save the farmer from bearing the full impact of their removal." (For further details, see Press Release 502).

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TIMELY FARM TOPICS PLATTER #56 cut recently includes (a) "Folks Meet Smokey Bear," John Baker, Chief of USDA Radio Service interviews "Smokey Bear" on forest fire prevention and (b) "Home Gardens Needed Again," discussion by John Baker.

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HELP A LITTLE AND SAVE A LOT. . . . A voluntary saving of 40 percent in wheat products and 20 percent in fats and oils during the next 120 days was asked by the President's Famine Emergency Committee this week. Its statement, issued after an all-day meeting in the Department March 11, contained a total of 39 specific recommendations to the public feeding industry, food distributors and manufacturers, and consumers, on how to effect this saving (Press Release 527). "The world faces the gigantic emergency of famine among five hundred million people due to war exhaustion of agriculture and drought," the committee states. "A great human cry has come to us to save them over a terrible four months until the next harvest." Upon the recommendation of the Famine Emergency Committee, President Truman has appointed a National Famine Emergency Council of about 125 members to take the lead in explaining the needs and the methods for saving food. USDA has the administrative responsibility for carrying out the program.

Local food conservation goals will be worked out by State and county USDA councils in cooperation with the State and county emergency food program managers designated by Secretary Anderson. The managers consist of State PMA directors and chairmen of the county agricultural conservation committees. These groups, working together, will try to enlist the support of everyone in the food program by personal contact. Personnel of all field agencies have been asked to "pitch in" and help in any way possible in this emergency. Other recent actions taken in the Department to help in the food crisis include:

1. USDA warning that violators of WFO 1 will be prosecuted. This order prohibits consignment selling of bread and other bakery products.
2. WFO 144 amended to redefine "excess wheat", permit the manufacture of farina, and to prohibit sale or delivery of wheat mill feeds to other than feed dealers, or flour to other than food manufacturers. (Press Release 501).
3. Support prices on 1946-crop dry smooth peas maintained at 1945 levels.
4. Secretary Anderson issues appeal for manufacture of more farm machinery, equipment, and supplies for the current crop year.
5. Commercial broiler producers urged to continue flock reduction program because of serious feed situation. (Press Release 529).
6. Set-aside provisions on meat and lard extended to non-Federally inspected slaughters whose plants have been certified by Secretary Anderson under the terms of WFO 139.



TWO FACT SHEETS--ONE GOAL, more food for all peoples this year. Comprehensive fact sheets on the Famine Emergency Campaign and the 1946 Victory Garden Program will be sent out this week. Unusually wide distribution will be made through PMA, Extension Service, FCA, FSA, REA (to its borrowers), USDA Clubs, and other USDA groups. The Advertising Council, Inc., will place the fact sheets in the hands of advertisers, and nutrition committees will receive them. OPA will distribute both pieces; they will also be sent to citizens' organizations and all national media.

"GARDEN AND CONSERVE to SAVE what we've WON" is the title of the 2-page garden fact sheet. It stresses the fact there is no time to lose in getting gardens planted, states specific objectives and appeals in the entire program, and lists USDA booklets on gardening. They'll still be "Victory Gardens" this year. "Why change the name?" asks the fact sheet. "The war is over but the victory is not complete and will not be complete until the wounds have been healed, the good earth is in full production again, and the starving victims of the war are eating regularly."

"FAMINE EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN" is the title of the 4-page fact sheet on the food program. It tells the need for food and a variety of background facts. It urges people to take these steps:

1. Conserve: Cut waste. Eat 40 percent less wheat products. Eat 20 percent less fats and oils; cook with "used" fats; contribute excess to salvage drive. Substitute such foods as potatoes, poultry, eggs, fresh fruits and vegetables when plentiful.
2. Contribute foods suitable for shipping to collection drives being conducted by UNRRA and official war relief agencies--and groups cooperating with them.
3. Produce and preserve (farm production, victory gardens, and home food preservation).

Copies of both the garden and the Famine Emergency Campaign fact sheets may be obtained from the Office of Information.

#### RADIO SCHEDULE

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RADIO - MARCH 23. . . . NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR, NBC, 1:00 p.m., EST. Weekly news summary for farmers, "Department of Agriculture Headlines."

CONSUMER TIME, NBC, 12:15 p.m., EST. Dramatized Story about chickens and eggs. Farmer's Bulletin No. 1888, Poultry Cooking, will be offered listeners.

AMERICAN FARMER, ABC, 12:30 p.m., EST. The weekly report to farmers entitled "The Business Side of Farming," plus a 12-minute pickup from Washington on gardening. Joe Tonkin of USDA's Radio Service will interview W. H. White, of BE&PQ, and Roy Magruder and S. P. Doolittle, of BPISAE, on gardening information.

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USDA RELEASES OF SPECIAL INTEREST. . . . Violators of WFO 1 warned of prosecution--492; Support prices on dry smooth peas announced--494; Amended WFO 144 issued--501; World hog numbers decrease in 1946--497; Industry representatives draft emergency food conservation measures--504; Low rate of livestock feeding urged--482; Secretary Anderson announces State and local emergency food program managers--511; World wheat crop smallest since 1929--509; Radio interview with Secretary Anderson on conserving food, "Headline Edition," ABC, March 8--513; Additional set-aside provisions on meat and lard announce--514; Second quarter sugar allocation--517; W. D. Termohlen named Director and R. W. Lennartson, Associate Director of PMA's Poultry Branch--519; Synthetic detergents placed under quota control--521; Famine Emergency Committee recommendations--527; USDA urges broiler producers to continue production cut--529; Secretary Anderson appeals for manufacture of farm machinery, equipment, and supplies--531; Famine Emergency Committee urges more Victory Gardens--523; 1946 Irish potato price support program supplemented by schedule of f.o.b. prices and other conditions for accepting potatoes under the support program--538.

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OTHER RELEASES OF AGRICULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE. . . . Correction on OPA-6288, ceiling prices on white potatoes suspended from March 7 through April 10--OPA-6288A; Ceilings on beef, veal, lamb, pork, sausages, lard, and beef livers increased--OPA-6294; Price ceilings on wheat germ reinstated--OPA-T-4247; Ceilings for most cotton textiles and yarns upped--OPA-6293; Ceiling prices on 1946 pack of canned goods to be higher because of approved wage increases in canning industry--OPA-T-4263; Much war surplus, steel barbed wire fence and anchor posts to be placed on nation-wide sale March 20 through 11 regional offices of War Assets Corporation--WAC-303; Interim increase of 10 percent in ceiling prices on strawberry crates made at request of USDA--OPA-T-4268.

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THE NEW REA MOVIE. . . . Sixteen mm. prints of the new REA movie, "Bob Marshall Comes Home," are being supplied REA cooperatives for their use during the next several weeks, after which they will be released to the Department's film depositories. Commercial theaters can obtain 35 mm. prints of the movie from REA in Washington. Most of the scenes of the film were made near Huntingdon, Pa., and Murfreesboro, Tenn., in rural areas served by REA cooperatives. The picture will be shown in a commercial theater at Huntingdon, Pa., March 18. This 20-minute X sound film tells how Bob Marshall, returned veteran, gets electricity for his isolated farm. The purpose of the film is to explain the area coverage program being undertaken by REA cooperatives. Actual productive uses of electricity on the farm are shown.

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RECENT USDA PUBLICATIONS. . . . Agricultural Policy, 4th in "What Peace Can Mean to American Farmers" series, Misc. Pub. No. 589, 41 p.; Marketing and Manufacturing Margins for Tobacco, Tech. Bul. No. 913, 56 p.; How to Tailor a Woman's Suit, Misc. Pub. 591, 24 p.; The Pea Weevil and Methods for Its Control, Farmers' Bul. No. 1971, 24 p.; Social Security for Farm People, Questions and Answers, AIS-45, 14 p.

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